

Serial Number: 10/044,996
Group Art Unit: 3616

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Listing of claims

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A roll-over airbag for a vehicle self-inflating restraint system, said roll-over airbag comprising:

a first ~~supported~~ fabric panel having a perimeter of a pre-selected length;

a second ~~supported~~ fabric panel perimetrically bonded to said first ~~supported~~ fabric panel;

at least one port opening provided in said first ~~supported~~ fabric panel for connecting said roll-over bag to an inflator to allow communication of an expansion fluid from the inflator to said roll-over airbag; and

at least one securement member disposed proximate said perimeter for providing a reinforcing lap joint, each said at least one securement member having an upper portion bonded to said first ~~supported~~ fabric panel and a lower portion bonded to said second ~~supported~~ fabric panel thereby distributing stress associated with expansion of said roll-over airbag over a larger surface area.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The roll-over airbag of claim 1 wherein said roll-over airbag further comprises at least one tether disposed within said airbag for limiting displacement of said first and second ~~supported~~ fabric panels from one another, said tether having a first end bonded to said first ~~supported~~ fabric panel and a second end bonded to said second ~~supported~~ fabric panel and wherein said first and second fabric panels are made from one or more materials that are impermeable to the expansion fluid.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A roll-over airbag for a vehicle self-inflating restraint system, said roll-over airbag comprising:

a first ~~supported~~ fabric panel having a perimeter of a pre-selected length;

a second ~~supported~~ fabric panel perimetrically bonded to said first ~~supported~~ fabric panel;

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at least one port opening provided in said first ~~supported~~ fabric panel for connecting said roll-over bag to an inflator to allow communication of an expansion fluid from the inflator to said roll-over airbag;

at least one securement member disposed proximate said perimeter, each said at least one securement member having an upper portion bonded to said first ~~supported~~ fabric panel and a lower portion bonded to said second ~~supported~~ fabric panel thereby distributing stress associated with expansion of said roll-over airbag over a larger surface area; and

at least one tether disposed within said airbag for limiting displacement of said first and second ~~supported~~ fabric panels from one another, said tether having a first end bonded to said first ~~supported~~ fabric panel and a second end bonded to said second ~~supported~~ fabric panel,

wherein said first and second fabric panels are made from one or more materials that are impermeable to the expansion fluid.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): ~~The roll-over airbag of claim 3~~ A roll-over airbag for a vehicle self-inflating restraint system, said roll-over airbag comprising:

a first fabric panel having a perimeter of a pre-selected length;

a second fabric panel perimetrically bonded to said first fabric panel;

at least one port opening provided in said first fabric panel for connecting said roll-over bag to an inflator to allow communication of an expansion fluid from the inflator to said roll-over airbag;

at least one securement member disposed proximate said perimeter, each said at least one securement member having an upper portion bonded to said first fabric panel and a lower portion bonded to said second fabric panel thereby distributing stress associated with expansion of said roll-over airbag over a larger surface area; and

at least one tether disposed within said airbag for limiting displacement of said first and second fabric panels from one another, said tether having a first end bonded to said first fabric panel and a second end bonded to said second fabric panel,

wherein each said tether is defined by at least a two-ply member defining an I-shaped cross section and having a first end bonded to said first ~~supported~~ fabric panel and a second end bonded to said second ~~supported~~ fabric panel and defining concave edge portions.

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Claim 5 (Currently Amended): ~~The roll-over airbag of claim 4~~ A roll-over airbag for a vehicle self-inflating restraint system, said roll-over airbag comprising:

a first fabric panel having a perimeter of a pre-selected length;

a second fabric panel perimetrically bonded to said first fabric panel;

at least one port opening provided in said first fabric panel for connecting said roll-over bag to an inflator to allow communication of an expansion fluid from the inflator to said roll-over airbag;

at least one securement member disposed proximate said perimeter, each said at least one securement member having an upper portion bonded to said first fabric panel and a lower portion bonded to said second fabric panel thereby distributing stress associated with expansion of said roll-over airbag over a larger surface area; and

at least one tether disposed within said airbag for limiting displacement of said first and second fabric panels from one another, said tether having a first end bonded to said first fabric panel and a second end bonded to said second fabric panel,

wherein each said tether is defined by a first folded supported fabric member and a cooperating second folded supported fabric member, said first and second folded supported fabric members being secured to one another by a securement member, wherein said first and second folded supported fabric members have a first preselected width and said securement member has a second preselected width said first preselected width being greater than said second preselected width.

Claim 6 (Original): The roll-over airbag of claim 3 wherein said tether comprises a first panel member, a second panel member secured to said first panel member and at least one region of securement for securing said second panel member to said first panel member.

Claim 7 (Original): The roll-over airbag of claim 6 wherein said at least one region of securement is defined by an elongated region of securement having a preselected width of securement.

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Claim 8 (Original): The roll-over airbag of claim 7 wherein said elongated region of securement includes end sections having a width greater than said pre-selected width of said elongated region of securement.

Claim 9 (Original): The roll-over airbag of claim 6 wherein said second panel member is secured to said first panel member by stitching.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The roll-over airbag of ~~claim 6~~ claim 7 wherein said elongated region of securement is defined by at least first and second rows of stitching, wherein said first and said second rows of stitching are parallel and each of said first and second parallel rows of stitching includes a first end and a second end, wherein a first substantially curved ~~row~~ line of stitching extends from said first end of said first row of stitching to said first end of said second row of stitching and a second substantially curved ~~row~~ line of stitching extends from said second end of said first row of stitching to said second end of said second row of stitching.